## Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 131154

14

ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /011 R

66664

R 040537 Z JUL 73 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

SECRETSTATE 131154

**EXDIS** 

FOR REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

FOLL SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM ASUNCION 03  $\,$  JUL 73  $\,$  REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

SE C R E T ASUNCION 2511

**EXDIS** 

FOR ARA/ HURWITCH, S/ NM- HANDLEY, PLEASE PASS DEA, ATTENTION IA AND ENC, WHITE HOUSE/ MINNICK FROM AMBASSADOR

E. O. 11652: XGDS TAGS: SNAR, PA SUBJECT: CLARIFICATION OF PARAGUAYAN POLICE ARREST OF NARCOTICS INFORMANT

REF: ASUNCION 2474

1. WE HAVE BEEN CATEGORICALLY ASSURED BY BESTARD,
DIRECTOR GENERAL, MINISTRY OF INTERIOR, SPEAKING ON
BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT OF PARAGUAYA, THAT GOP INTENDS
CONTINUE FULLEST POSSIBLE COOPERATION WITH USG IN
NARCOTICS.
SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 131154

2. DR. BESTARD SAYS US NARCOTICS AGENTS ARE TO CONTINUE TO USE CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS. NEW PARAGUAYAN NARCOTICS UNIT NEEDS CONTINUING USG ASSISTANCE AND USE OF INFORMANTS IMPORTANT.

- 3. DR. BESTARD FLATLY DENIED THAT GOP HAD THREATENED INFORMANTS AGAINST WORKING WITH US AGENTS. ONLY CASE OF ARREST AND INTERROGATION WAS INFORMANT ACCUSED BY PASTOR CORONEL OF HAVING FABRICATED STORY OF PASTOR CORONEL'S INVOLVEMENT IN DRUG TRAFFIC (REFTEL). INFORMANT CHARGED WITH HAVING PLOTTED WITH POLICE OFFICER, IBARROLA.
- 4. ACCORDING TO BESTARD, MINISTER OF INTERIOR
  KEPT PRESIDENT STROESSNER FULLY INFORMED OF PASTOR
  CORONEL'S ARRESTING AND INTERROGATING INFORMANT.
  PRESIDENT, SENSITIVE TO POSSIBLE EMBASSY MISUNDERSTANDING
  OF GOP INTENTIONS, FIRST OF ALL REFUSED APPROVE ARREST OF
  POLICE CAPTAIN IBARROLA (KEY NATIONAL CAPITAL POLICE
  WITNESS IN RICORD TRIAL, WHOSE TRAVEL TO US WAS
  APPROVED BY STROESSNER ONLY AFTER MY STRONG INTERVENTION).
  PRESIDENT THEN ON JUNE 29 DIRECTED PASTOR
  CORONEL TO TERMINATE HIS EFFORTS AT CLEARING HIS NAME
  (OF THE READER'S DIGEST CHARGES).
- 5. COMMENT: HOPEFULLY THIS WORRISOME INCIDENT WILL HAVE NO FURTHER REPERCUSSIONS ON OPERATIONS OF US NARCOTICS AGENTS. WE ARE TAKING GOP ASSURANCES AT FACE VALUE AND AGENTS ARE RESUMING OPERATIONS WITH INFORMANTS, WHICH WILL BE QUICK TEST OF BESTARD'S PROMISES.
- 6. REQUEST DEPARTMENT PASS THIS MESSAGE TO EMBASSY BUENOS AIRES FOR REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR. LANDAU NQUOTE RUSH

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

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Subject: CLARIFICATION OF PARAGUAYAN POLICE ARREST OF NARCOTICS INFORMANT

TAGS: SNAR, US, PA To: BUENOS AIRES

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005